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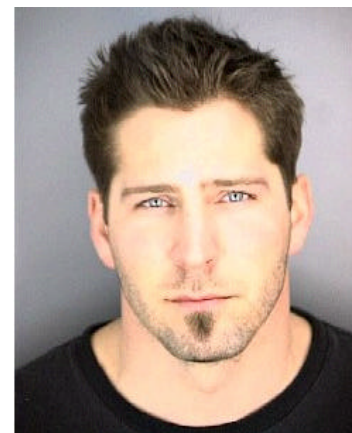
PRESS RELEASE

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: JANUARY 11, 2003 2:30 PM
DATE/TIME OF OCCURRENCE: JANUARY 11, 2003 2:00 AM
NATURE OF CALL: ATTEMPTED MURDER
LOCATION OF CALL: 1600 SQUAW VALLEY ROAD, OLYMPIC VALLEY
CASE NUMBER: SO-02-605
SUSPECT: MATTHEW DAVID HAFF

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

The Placer County Sheriff's Department along with members of the Squaw Valley Fire Department and the California Highway Patrol responded to a report of an accident involving a vehicle versus pedestrian in the 1600 block of Squaw Valley Road.

During the initial investigation, it was determined that a physical confrontation took place between the victim and the suspect. After the initial confrontation, the victim approached the suspect while the suspect was in his vehicle. A second exchange of words was witnessed wherein the suspect drove off striking the victim with his vehicle and drug him approximately one quarter mile across the parking lot of The Squaw Valley Ski Resort and onto Squaw Valley Road. The victim became dislodged from the vehicle near the Olympic Valley Post Office.



Matthew David Haff

The victim was transported by ambulance to the Tahoe Forest Hospital in Truckee and subsequently air lifted to the Washoe Medical Center in Reno, Nevada. The victim is identified as Thomas Hans Berenbak Jr., 31 years old, of Tahoe City.

Berenbak is reported to have sustained abdominal injuries along with fractured ribs and a broken leg. Investigators have not yet been able to obtain a statement from him.

The suspect is identified as Matthew David Haff, 28 years old, of Olympic Valley. He was arrested at his residence and booked for attempted murder.

RELEASED BY: Detective Sergeant Lori J. Ziegler

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